

Limerick Recycler Newsletter

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Limerick Sees Another Increased Recycling Rate

From the Maine State Planning Office Report

When the town received the recycling percentage for the year ending 12/31/06 from the Maine State Planning Office the recycling rate went up again from 41.4% for 2005 to 47.6% for 2006. To what can we attributed this hefty increase?

INCREASED RECYCLING !

2005

2006

HHW – 1,685.85 Tons	HHW - 1,460.61 Tons
Metal – 89 Tons	Metal – 134.43 Tons
Cardboard – 39.77 Tons	Cardboard – 79.38 Tons
Glass – 2.20 Tons	Glass – 39.13 Tons
Cans & Plastic – 0	Cans/ Plastic – 7.09 Tons
Electronics – 5.25 Tons	Electronics – 7.81 Tons
Take It Shop – 64 Tons	Take It Shop – 90 Tons

It looks like the 2007 figure will drop another 100 Tons.

A reduction of 325 Tons of household waste saves

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WANTED

MERCURY THERMOSTATS

\$5.00

REWARD

Through the Maine State Planning Office I have ordered a container to use in recycling mercury containing thermostats; included with the container are \$5.00 coupons you can mail in to collect the reward for each and every mercury thermostat you bring to the transfer station for recycling. This is an incentive to take the estimated 24,000 thermostats out of the landfill and back to the manufacturer annually for proper disposal and mercury recovery. This offer is good to homeowners or contractors and there is no limit to the number of \$5.00 cash coupons one can receive.

CATALOG CHOICE

GIVES CONSUMERS CONTROL OF THEIR MAILBOXES

A Free Online Service Lets People Just Say **NO**

To Unwanted Mail !

Every year over 19 billion catalogs are mailed to American consumers. What's the impact?

- Number of trees used – 53 million trees
- Pounds of paper used – 3.6 million tons
- Energy used to produce the volume of paper – 38 trillion BTU's, enough to power 1.2 million homes each year
- Contribution to global warming – 5.2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions, equal to the annual emissions of two million automobiles

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\$24,000.00 in tipping fees to MERC, WOW !

An increase of 45 tons in metal recycling means a \$5,000.00 reduction in operating costs. An additional 40 tons of cardboard and paper recycling equates to a savings of \$73.88 per ton plus a nice recycling check from Ecomaine to reduce transfer station operation costs. Crushing glass with our \$250.00 glass crusher and burying that extra 37 tons of glass reduces costs by over \$2,700.00.

The credit for the above reductions is directly due to your voluntary recycling at the transfer station. Many of you have told us “since we started recycling and bringing our recyclables here, we only put out one bag of trash every week instead of two barrels”.

Our adjusted recycling rate increase from 20.1 percent in 2004 to 47.6 percent in 2006 that is quite an accomplishment. A goal I am hopeful we can achieve next year is a 50 percent recycling rate.

Cardboard & Paper Compactor

Update on Savings

As of November we have exceeded last year's paper and cardboard recycling from 73 tons to over 100 tons of mixed paper and cardboard; this equates to over \$5,000.00 in recycling income and tipping fees saved in excess of \$7,000.00; by year end I expect that the compactor the town purchased will have paid for itself in one year. I had estimated a two to three year pay back, thanks for proving me wrong.

“Take It Shop”

What a continued success the shop is for reducing tons destined for M.E.R.C. or for landfill. More importantly the little shop has given newly weds a helping hand in furnishing their first apartment, has saved taxpayers for the need to purchase that desk, bookcase, couch, bedroom set, woodstove, bathroom vanity, kitchen cabinets, even a boat. I'm talking some real savings to those residents who are taking advantage of the shop; one young couple took advantage of saving hundreds of dollars taking several unused interior six-panel doors for the home they were building. The shop has also become a place where neighbor meets neighbor and new friendships are developed. If you haven't come down to check out the

shop please do so and instead of throwing out that good useable item in your household trash bring it down to the shop “Recycle...Everything Deserves to Have a Second Chance!” This quote is part of a new promotion by the Waste Management and Recycling Division in the State Planning Office. This year's promotion is geared toward families and their children. If you want to see a great website visit www.mainererecycles.com there you will find information to help you the homeowner, educators, and many organizations to better understand the importance of recycling, the benefits to our town, our world economy, and especially the benefits to our environment and global warming.

BYOB

BRING YOUR OWN BAG – Some stores reward you for bringing back bags for reuse. Reuse your plastic bags and the store will refund up to 3-cents for every reuse.

REUSE AT HOME – Plastic bags are durable and can be put to use in many ways.

RECYCLE PLASTIC BAGS – Every month more and more retail stores are using plastic bags that can be recycled. Look for the recycling triangle on the bag most have the # 2 inside the triangle and bring them along with your # 1- # 7 plastic containers to the transfer station for recycling. In the same container you can throw away your rinsed tin cans, aluminum foil and aluminum food containers.

USED MOTOR OIL AND ANTIFREEZE

Many of you have been requesting drop off for used motor oil, antifreeze, oil filters, and batteries. I have requested \$15,000.00 in my 2008 budget to add on to the electronic recycling building. We are bulging at the seams and will use this addition to make space available to house two collection tanks, one for used motor oil and one for anti-freeze, a special collection barrel for used oil filters and free battery collection. The new addition would also increase space for electronic waste and allow us to move our glass crusher to a permanent space. Your help is needed at the town meeting in March to vote on this budget request.

- Water waste discharges from this volume of paper – 53 billion gallons, enough to fill 81,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Environmental impact estimates were made by using www.papercalculator.org.

Catalog Choice has a database of over 600 catalog companies and you can add to this database if you get catalogs that aren't listed.

Many of us are looking for ways to simplify our lives and do our part to help the environment.

Catalog Choice will be good for businesses. This service will help businesses remove non-responsive consumers from their lists and reduce expenses associated with paper, printing and postage.

In addition to the online service, Catalog Choice plans to survey merchants' business activities and promote sustainable practices in the catalog industry.

Catalog Choice is supported with funding from The Overlook Foundation, the Kendeda Fund and the Merck Family Fund.

To learn more about the service visit:

www.catalogchoice.org

**MAKE SURE YOU BRING ALL YOUR
FLOURESCENT TUBES, MERCURY ITEMS,
BALLASTS, AND THE NEW "FUNNY
LOOKING" COMPACT FLOURESCENT LIGHT
BULBS TO THE TRANSFER STATION**

NO CHARGE TO RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

**SPECIAL EVENT – INFORMATION TABLE FOR THE TRANSFER
STATION RECYCLING FACILITY ON TOWN ELECTION DAY FRIDAY
MARCH 7, 2008.**

Newsletters, list of items taken at your transfer station, answers to your questions on recycling or other special wastes. Budget and Recycling Information available all day.

Special Event- 3rd Annual Transfer Station Open House
Saturday May 24, 2008 - All Day – Refreshments.

REDUCE – REUSE - RECYCLE



LIMERICK RECYCLES

CARDBOARD – PAPERBOARD – FOOD BOXES

PACKAGING BOXES – NEWSPAPER – BOOKS

JUNK MAIL – OFFICE PAPER – MAGAZINES

SHREDDED PAPER – CATALOGS – BAGS

WRAPPING PAPER – GIFT BOXES

#1 THROUGH #7 PLASTICS – JAR LIDS

ALUMINUM FOIL AND FOOD CONTAINERS

RINSED TIN CANS – EMPTY AEROSOL CANS

METAL ITEMS – STEEL – BRASS – TIN – COPPER

ALUMINUM – USED ELECTRICAL WIRE

APPLIANCE AND EXTENSION CORDS

RINSED GLASS JARS & BOTTLES – CHINA

RETURNABLE & NON- RETURNABLE

BOTTLES & CANS

UNBAGGED GRASS – LEAVES – HAY

NON WOODY PLANTS – MANURE – SAW DUST

PORCELAIN FIXTURES – BRICKS – CEMENT

CONCRETE & PATIO BLOCKS – CHIMNEY TILES

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES - EYEGLASSES

FLOURESCENT LAMPS – COMPACT
FLOURESCENT LIGHT BULBS & SPOT LIGHTS

RECYCLING TIPS AND TOPICS

Making Use of Your Mountain of Plastic Bags:

- Use them as bin liners
- Use them as "Doggy Doo Bags" when walking your dog
- Scrunch them for packaging as an alternative to bubble wrap or packing peanuts
- Use them when traveling to keep wet or dirty clothes away from clean and dry clothes.
- Reuse washed zip lock bags for lunches rather than plastic wrap

Email us at limerickrecyclers@yahoo.com

with any tips or topics.

Share your tips for easier recycling.

Ask us for topics that interest you in relation to recycling and your transfer station

RECYCLE

Laptop Computers
Televisions
Computer Monitors
Rechargeable Batteries
Mercury Items

IT'S THE LAW



**FROM ALL OF US AT THE
TRANSFER STATION**

TRANSFER STATION INFO

The Transfer Station is located on Doles Ridge Rd.

Telephone – 207-432-0064 during hours- leave voice mail.

Hours Change when the time changes in Fall and Spring.

SUMMER HOURS

Wednesday and Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

WINTER HOURS

Wednesday and Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

HOLIDAYS

Easter Sunday-Christmas Day-New Years Day
if it falls on a day the facility is usually open.

STORM DAYS

Facility may close due to severe weather
check your local TV channel for closing listing.

**GOT TO
TAKE MY RECYCLING TO
THE TRANSFER STATION**



RECYCLE FOR THE

ENVIRONMENT !

RECYCLE FOR THE

FUTURE !

**RECYCLE TO HELP
REDUCE SOLID WASTE COST!**